

Ms. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise as a proud daughter to talk about a matter of government transparency.

The families of those who lost their lives on September 11th and all Americans deserve to know who was behind these terrible, horrific terrorist attacks.

I believe some of those answers can be found in the 28 classified pages from the joint inquiry into the attacks—28 pages my father, Senator Bob Graham, has been advocating for the release of for 12 years.

I have read the 28 pages. My father has read the 28 pages. Some of my colleagues in the Congress have read the 28 pages; yet, still today, the American people aren't able to read them.

As elected officials, we answer to the people. Adlai Stevenson said it best: "As citizens of this democracy, you are the rulers and the ruled, the lawgivers and the law-abiders, the beginning and the end."

Mr. Speaker, no one has been able to answer the question of why is it necessary to continue to hide the truth from the public, so it is time to allow all Americans to read the 28 pages and make up their own minds, as is their American right.

CMS ON STATE EXCHANGES

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, thanks to a report by the House Energy and Commerce Committee, we now know that a top CMS official misled Congress during a hearing that was investigating wasted funds on ObamaCare State exchanges. I have the report right here in my hand.

When ObamaCare was enacted, the President freely gave taxpayer money to States to establish these State exchanges. Since then, exchanges in Oregon, New Mexico, Hawaii, Nevada, among others, have failed and billions of taxpayer dollars have been squandered. I think I speak for the American taxpayer when I ask: Where is all the leftover money?

My legislation, H.R. 4262, addresses this problem by establishing a plan to recoup Federal funds and, most importantly, protect American taxpayers from having to pay back the balance.

Clearly, State exchanges are a mess if a CMS administrator cannot speak correctly or accurately on them. Faulty State exchanges are not going away. It is a problem that is only just beginning, and it is going to get worse.

I thank the committee for their investigation, and I urge my colleagues to support my legislation, the Transparency and Accountability of Failed Exchanges Act.

CONGRATULATING HAROLD HAYES

(Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permis-

sion to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my constituents, Harold Hayes, who is retiring after more than 35 years in broadcasting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Harold has a lifelong connection to the city of Pittsburgh. Born in McKeesport, Harold went on to graduate from South Hills High School and then from the University of Pittsburgh.

He joined KDKA-TV as a reporter in 1979, and he has been there ever since, providing the people of southwestern Pennsylvania with solid, objective reporting about the news that matters to them.

There is no doubt that Harold Hayes has served as Pittsburgh's reporter throughout his many years with KDKA. I want to commend Harold for his contributions to our community, congratulate him on his retirement, and wish him all the best as he begins the next phase of his life.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my constituents, Harold Hayes, who's retiring after more than thirty-five years in broadcasting in Pittsburgh, PA.

Harold has a lifelong connection to the City of Pittsburgh. Born in McKeesport, Harold went on to graduate from South Hills High School and then from the University of Pittsburgh in 1975 with a Bachelor's degree in Speech and Communications. After graduation, Harold worked as a research assistant in the "Reading is Fundamental" program, sponsored by the Urban League of Pittsburgh.

In August of 1979, Harold joined KDKA-TV as a reporter, and he's been there ever since, providing the people of southwestern Pennsylvania with solid, objective reporting about the news that matters to them. Since joining the station, Harold has covered everything from military operations in the Middle East to landmark local court cases. He has amassed an impressive portfolio of overseas coverage, including reporting on Operation Desert Shield in Saudi Arabia in 1990, the government of Kuwait's memorial to the local lives lost during Operation Desert Storm in 1993, and the funeral of Pope John Paul II in 2005.

Yet his touch has really been felt locally, not only reporting on the day-to-day lives of Pittsburghers, but even making sure to follow up on stories that made headlines years ago. For example, he covered the 1981 court desegregation order that resulted in the creation of the Woodland Hills School District. Twenty years later, he found one of the students he had interviewed back then, and discovered that the former student now had a child who was about to graduate from Woodland Hills as well. It is this type of dedication and compassion that has distinguished Harold from most other reporters in Pittsburgh for years.

Harold has covered both tragedy and triumph, as well as the personal stories of working people, Presidents, and protesters all with equal grace, fairness, compassion, and his special dry sense of humor. Harold brings both humility and perspective to his work every day, and because of that, has remained a consummate professional throughout his 37 years of work. He represents that high level of personal integrity and the demanding work

ethic that characterize the people of Southwestern Pennsylvania. There is no doubt that Harold Hayes has served as "Pittsburgh's Reporter" throughout his many years with KDKA. We will miss Harold's presence on the air.

Harold represents the best that there is in broadcast journalism, and he will be recognized for his contributions by the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences in September when he will receive a Lifetime Achievement Award at a ceremony in Philadelphia, PA.

Harold's commitment to our community extends far beyond his career as a newsman. He has also become a spokesperson for the Negro Educational Emergency Fund (NEED), and he created a scholarship in his mother's name for local students. In addition, he helps raise money for the Rev. J. Harold Hayes Scholarship, named for his late father, a former pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church in McKeesport.

I want to commend Harold for his contributions to our community, congratulate him on his retirement, and wish him all the best as he begins the next phase of his life.

OPIOID ADDICTION

(Ms. MCSALLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. Speaker, opioid addiction is an epidemic that is tearing our communities apart. This devastation is acutely felt by families in southern Arizona, many of whom know all too well the pain of losing a loved one to an overdose. Nobody, no family, is immune.

A recent analysis showed that Pima County, which I represent, has an overdose rate twice as high as any other county in Arizona, which had the 10th highest rate in the Arizona.

Southern Arizona's close proximity to the border exacerbates this problem, as more and more opioids come flowing into our communities. Reports show that, between 2010 and 2015, heroin seizures spiked by more than 300 percent. Too many lives have been ruined by the tragic consequences of opioid abuse, which is why we must act.

This week the House is voting on 18 bills that take steps such as launching medication and treatment intervention programs, expanding resources to evidence-based incarceration alternatives, and increasing the availability of life-saving overdose reversal drugs.

These are many important first steps to stopping the rise of opioid addiction, and I pledge to continue working to address this very grave and urgent issue.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

(Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate National Police Week and to honor police officers killed in the line of duty.

Sobering stories of everyday heroes lost in the line of duty led me to introduce H.R. 2350, Children of Fallen Heroes Scholarship Act, along with my fellow Pennsylvania colleague, Congressman MIKE FITZPATRICK.

This is a commonsense bill that would ease the financial burden of families of fallen law enforcement as well as other first responders by increasing Federal student aid opportunities for those children to pursue a college education.

Every child should have a fair opportunity to pursue a college degree, especially those who have suffered the unimaginable loss of a parent in the line of duty.

I commend the Senate for passing our companion bill earlier this week, and I call upon the House to pass our bill immediately.

DECLASSIFY DOCUMENTS

(Mr. JONES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Senator BOB GRAHAM of Florida for taking the national lead to declassify the 28 pages about 9/11, when so many Americans were killed. The information is critical to the freedom of America.

Representatives LYNCH, MASSIE, and myself have introduced H. Res. 14. We have over 54 colleagues in both parties who have joined us to say to President Obama: You have the authority—you don't even need Congress—to declassify this information. You promised the 9/11 families that you would do this.

Mr. President, keep your promise to the 9/11 families who are in so much pain. Keep your promise to the American people and let the American people know the truth about 9/11.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds Members to address their remarks to the Chair.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CARL WHITMARSH

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is a special privilege to be able to come to the floor and acknowledge the giants that live among us.

Today I want to honor a giant in my community, the 18th Congressional District, which I have the privilege of representing. That giant's name is Carl Whitmarsh.

If one were to think of those like Franklin Delano Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, William Jefferson Clinton, President Obama, and many other leaders who invested in America, you would think of Carl Whitmarsh.

He invested in the process of democracy. He invested, yes, in the Democratic Party because he was known as a democratic activist, but he had a sincere heart, being one of the members of the Texas Young Democrats.

But in the course of being a democratic person and an activist, Carl worked with one of the first African Americans to integrate the Young Democrats in the name of Doris Hubbard. They worked together to say that, in this Nation, we are all equal.

Yes, he was feisty. He was strong. He made us stand up and acknowledge our responsibilities of service. We lost him this past weekend.

I want to thank Mr. and Mrs. Schlett for the great work that they have done to answer his need in the place he lived. I thank the Schletts for all they have done.

Let me thank all of his friends for all they have done. Certainly, he was a friend of Hillary Clinton. He was a friend of mine and a friend of those who now mourn him.

So among those of us who count ourselves as activists, let me simply say that he was a public servant and he believed in helping people.

Let me also give my sympathy to the Oak Forest Area Democrats and all of his friends and family. Because we know that not only is a voice of democracy silenced, but we realize that a person who loved all of us and loved life and was willing to share—that person is Carl Whitmarsh.

May he rest in peace. We have lost you, but not your spirit, your memory, and your legacy.

PLANNING 2.0

(Mrs. LUMMIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, today in the Natural Resources Committee here in the House we heard testimony about how the Bureau of Land Management's Planning 2.0 rule might affect counties around this country that are dealing with Federal lands in their districts.

FLPMA, which is the Federal Land Policy Management Act, is a law that was designed to give local government a lot of input especially in counties where there is a tremendous amount of Federal land.

We heard today from counties that have 90 to 95 percent of their land owned by the Federal Government. They need input into what is going on in their districts. FLPMA contemplated that.

For Planning 2.0, the new proposed rule to change that and perhaps eliminate some opportunities for local governments to have input into Federal land management decisions would be a huge mistake.

I ask the Bureau of Land Management to extend the time beyond the 30 days they granted and allow 180 days for the time that local governments and other stakeholders are allowed to respond to the proposed new rule.

REACHING OUT TO CONSTITUENTS

(Mr. MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, as I often do, I reached out to my constituents to find out what issues are most important to them.

I sent out a survey, and thousands responded. The top three issues on the minds of folks back home are affordable housing, gun control, and police-community relations.

In every Congress since I have been here, I have pushed to raise funding for HUD and NYCHA so that we can renovate housing and increase both the amount of section 8 vouchers and affordable housing units in New York City and this country.

On gun control, I have cosponsored nearly every gun violence prevention bill in Congress, and I will continue to stand up to the NRA and the rest of the gun lobby.

I am keenly aware of the need to improve police-community relations. We need to force an honest dialogue with police and the communities they serve.

So to the folks back home, I want to reassure you I hear you loudly and clearly and I will continue to stay focused on the issues most important to you. Thank you for participating in the survey we sent out. I will continue to fight for you, as I always have.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds Members to address their remarks to the Chair.

OPIOID ADDICTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, for what feels like the first time this year, the House got to work on something that would genuinely help millions of Americans: addressing the opioid crisis.

My home State of New Jersey is a perfect example of this epidemic in both reach and financial impact. Four of every five new heroin users started their drug abuse addictions with a prescription opioid. By one estimate, New Jersey is now home to more than 128,000 heroin addicts.

□ 1645

In the past 10 years, heroin has claimed 5,000 lives in my State, and we fall just short of the top 10 in the percent of healthcare costs we use on those suffering with opioid addiction.

Opioids, both heroin and prescription painkillers, are driving the national